



# 100 YEARS:

SARAWAK GENERAL HOSPITAL KUCHING  
1910 - 2010

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PUSTAKA PERDANA



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2010



Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia      Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Hospital Umum Sarawak

100 years : Sarawak general hospital Kuching 1910-2010 /  
Hospital Umum Sarawak.

ISBN 978-967-10255-0-5

1. Hospital Umum Sarawak--History 1910-2010.    2. Medical  
care--Sarawak--History.    3. Public hospitals--Sarawak. I. Title.  
362.110959522

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form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy,  
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ISBN 978-967-10255-0-5

Designed and printed by Percetakan Nasional Malaysia Berhad,  
Kuching, Sarawak.

362.110959522



# HISTORY REVISITED

Sarawak General Hospital is celebrating 100 years of hospital services this year and 2010 marks a century of continued growth and service to the community the hospital serves.

Although some form of medical services were available in Kuching since the late 1800s, there are no proper records of its existence.

The earliest record about the hospital is from 1910. The hospital was initially located at the current site of the old Kuching Central Prison. From then up until World War II, the hospital was known as Kuching General Hospital. In 1910, 920 patients were admitted to this hospital. There was a slow increase in the number of patients and staff during this period. By 1925, it recorded an annual admission of 1,307. This increased to 2,812 in 1938.

Before the establishment of Kuching General Hospital in 1910, the Pavilion, built by the White Rajah in 1909, housed the Medical Headquarters and hospital for Europeans.

Between 1923-1924, however, it was realised that a new building would be necessary to cater for the increasing demand for medical care services.

In 1926, Kuching Hospital started operations at its new site at Rock Road, now Jalan Tun Abang Haji Openg, the present site of the Sarawak State Health Department.



This Mission House built in 1849 ( now Bishop's House ) was a dispensary and hospital.



The Pavilion completed in 1909, housed the medical headquarters and hospital for Europeans.



Built in 1882, Rajah James Brooke's Bungalow became Kuching's first hospital in 1910.



Sarawak General Hospital under construction - 1969.

*Photos courtesy of Pustaka Negeri Sarawak, Kuching*



# PREFACE

HOSPITAL DIRECTOR,  
SARAWAK GENERAL HOSPITAL

Sarawak General Hospital, Kuching, has come up with a coffee table book to commemorate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The book, 100 Years : Sarawak General Hospital Kuching chronicles Sarawak General Hospital's history and achievements over the last century. It is furnished with photographs of the past and present as we are convinced that the history and achievements cannot be expressed in words and numbers alone.

This compilation is a testament to the hospital's success from its humble beginning in 1910 to what it is today. Starting with treating just 920 patients in 1910, Sarawak General Hospital now records an average of 45,000 inpatients and 300,000 outpatients annually.

I would like to thank all those who had contributed their valuable time and insight to this book, for their tireless efforts in designing and editing the chapters and working with past hospital officials to document the history of this hospital.

**DR. ABDUL RAHIM BIN ABDULLAH**

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ISBN 978-967-10255-0-5



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